

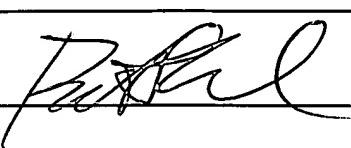
**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<i>Application Number</i>	09/147,693 Conf. No.: 2068
<i>Filing Date</i>	February 17, 1999
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	LUBITZ, et al.
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	1636
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Leffers, Jr., Gerald G.
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	2923-308

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 Note: if the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
 - a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
 - b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declarations
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other _____
2. Miscellaneous
 - a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.170(i) required.)
 - b. Other _____
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
 - a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 02-2135.
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) \$385.00
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) \$210.00
 - iii. Other _____
 - b. Check in the amount of \$ 595.00 _____ enclosed.
 - c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed.)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED			
NAME AND REG. NUMBER	Patrick T. Skacel, Reg. No. 47,948		
SIGNATURE		DATE	4/5/04

04/07/2004 SDENB0B1 00000086 09147693
01 FC:2801

385.00 OP

04/07/2004 SDENB0B1 00000086 09147693

02 FC:2252

210.00 OP

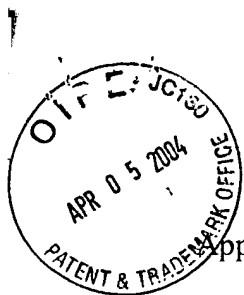


Image RCE/1636

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No.: 09/147,693 Confirmation No: 2068
Applicant/Inventor: LUBITZ, et al.
Filed: February 17, 1999
TC/A.U.: 1636
Examiner: Leffers, Jr., Gerald G.
Attorney Dkt. No.: 2923-308
Customer No.: 6449

AMENDMENT

Director of the United States Patent
and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 5, 2003

Dear Sir:

In connection with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) being filed concurrently herewith, please amend the above-identified application as indicated below and on the following pages. This Amendment and RCE are being submitted in lieu of an Appeal Brief, and in response to the June 3, 2003 Final Office Action and the December 9, 2003 Advisory Action issued in connection with the above-identified application. Applicants timely filed a Notice of Appeal on December 3, 2003, thereby setting a due date of February 3, 2003 for submission of an Appeal Brief. A petition for a two-month extension of time extending the due date to April 3, 2004 accompanies this Amendment and RCE. Because April 3, 2004 falls on a Saturday, a response filed the next succeeding business day, i.e., Monday, April 5, 2004, is considered timely. Thus, this reply is being timely filed.

Appl. No. 09/147,693
Amdt. Dated Apr. 5, 2004
Reply to Final Office Action of June 3, 2003

Finally, Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment be entered in lieu of the previously unentered Amendment of November 3, 2003.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.